

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GABORO 00182 051620Z

64

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-25 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 NIC-01 OMB-01 CU-04 AID-20 PC-04

DRC-01 /153 W

----- 068532

R 051130Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5113

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

C O N F I D E N T I A L GABORONE 0182

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, BC, SF

SUBJ: SASO LEADER ABRAHAM ONKGOPOTSE TIRO KILLED
BY EXPLOSION

REF: GABORONE 1721 (NOTAL)

1. MR. ABRAHAM ONKGOPOTSE TIRO, PERMANENT ORGANIZER OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN STUDENTS' ORGANIZATION, WAS KILLED IN AN EXPLOSION AT HIS HOUSE AT ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE, ON THE AFTERNOON OF FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1. BODY FOUND MORNING OF FEBRUARY 2. THE COLLEGE IS LOCATED SEVEN MILES SOUTH OF GABORONE. TIRO HAD BEEN STAYING WITH A STAFF MEMBER OF THE COLLEGE SINCE LATE-1973 AS HE HAD FLED TO BOTSWANA WITH OTHER SASO STUDENTS IN OCTOBER 1973 (SEE REFTEL). BOTSWANA CID AND SPECIAL BRANCH POLICE ARE INVESTIGATING CAUSE OF DEATH AND IT
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APPEARS TIRO WAS KILLED BY EITHER A PARCEL OR LETTER

BOMB. JOHANNESBURG RAND DAILY MAIL HAS REPORTED THAT THE BOMB HAD BEEN POSTED IN GENEVA, SWITZERLAND AND WAS HANDED TO TIRO BY A PRIEST AT THE COLLEGE. EMBASSY HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO VERIFY THIS STORY.

2. MOTIVES AND SUSPECTS IN TIRO CASE APPEAR TO BE PURE SPECULATION AT THIS POINT. POLICE HAVE NOT RULED OUT POSSIBILITY THAT TIRO MIGHT HAVE BEEN THE CREATOR OF THE BOMB RATHER THAN THE RECIPIENT. TIRO'S DEATH CAUSING CONSIDERABLE COMMENT AND CONCERN IN GABORONE AS THIS IS FIRST TIME BOTSWANA HAS HAD SUCH AN INCIDENT. SENIOR POLICE OFFICIALS ARE NOT YET AVAILABLE FOR COMMENT BUT EMBASSY WILL REPORT DETAILS AS AVAILABLE.

NELSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EXPLOSIVES, BOMBING, DEATHS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974GABORO00182
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: GABORONE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740256/aaaacaas.tel
Line Count: 75
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
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Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: GABORONE 1721 (NOTAL)
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Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 JUN 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <31 DEC 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SASO LEADER ABRAHAM ONKGOPOTSE TIRO KILLED BY EXPLOSION
TAGS: PINS, BC, SF, SASO, (TIRO, ABRAHAM ONKGOPOTSE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005